

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-15 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 NSC-10

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DRAFTED BY: POL:ELITTLE USUN

APPROVED BY: S/S TRPICKERING

S/S AMB. BENNETT

MR. KUBISCH (IN SUBS)

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R 071724Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 199702

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SGEN, XM (KISSINGER)

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S REMARKS AT LATIN AMERICAN LUNCHEON

IN NEW YORK

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REMARKS MADE OCTOBER 5 BY THE
SECRETARY AT LUNCHEON FOR LATIN AMERICANS FONMINS, OTHER
HEADS OF DELEGATIONS TO GA AND UN PERM REPS:

QUOTE

THERE IS A STORY OF AN ENGLISHMAN WHO VISITED SWEDEN AND WHEN HE
WAS GOING THROUGH PASSPORT CONTROL, HE WAS CONFRONTED WITH TWO
LINES, ONE WAS MARKED FOR SWEDES, THE OTHER ONE WAS MARKED FOR
FOREIGNERS. AFTER A WHILE AN OFFICIAL CAME BY AND FOUND HIM
SITTING BETWEEN THESE TWO LINES. AND THE OFFICIAL SAID, "SIR,
WILL YOU PLEASE GO INTO ONE LINE OR THE OTHER?" AND HE SAID,
" THAT'S JUST MY PROBLEM. I AM NOT A SWEDE AND I AM OBVIOUSLY

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NOT A FOREIGNER."

I THINK THAT STORY IS SYMBOLIC OF OUR MEETING TODAY. WE

OBTAINING THE RIGHT TO BELONG TO ONE COUNTRY BUT WE OBVIOUSLY ARE ALSO NOT FOREIGNERS IN THIS ROOM.

I AM GRATEFUL THAT YOU CAME AND FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TELL YOU THAT WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT STARTING A NEW DIALOGUE WITH OUR FRIENDS IN THE AMERICAS.

AS WE LOOK BACK AT THE HISTORY OF THE RELATIONSHIPS OF THE UNITED STATES TO ITS NEIGHBORS TO THE SOUTH, IT HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY ALTERNATING PERIODS OF WHAT SOME OF YOU HAVE CONSIDERED INTERVENTION WITH PERIODS OF NEGLECT.

WE ARE PROPOSING TO YOU A FRIENDSHIP BASED ON EQUALITY AND ON RESPECT FOR MUTUAL DIGNITY.

AND SUCH A RELATIONSHIP IS NEEDED FOR ALL OF US AND I BELIEVE IT IS NEEDED ALSO FOR THE REST OF THE WORLD.

IN THE UNITED STATES IN THE LAST DECADE, WE HAVE EXPERIENCED MANY DRAMATIC CHANGES. THROUGHOUT MOST OF OUR HISTORY WE COULD OVERPOWER MOST OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS AND WE COULD ALSO SUBSTITUTE RESOURCES FOR THOUGHT. TODAY, WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING, WE CAN DO VERY LITTLE.

THROUGHOUT MUCH OF OUR HISTORY, INDEED THROUGHOUT MUCH OF THIS ADMINISTRATION, WE USED TO BELIEVE WITH RESPECT TO AGRICULTURE, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT OUR PRIMARY PROBLEM WAS HOW TO GET RID OF SEEMINGLY INEXHAUSTIBLE SURPLUSES. WE HAVE NOW LEARNED THAT WE SHARE THE WORLD'S PROBLEMS, HOW TO ALLOCATE SCARCE FOOD RESOURCES IN RELATION TO WORLD NEEDS.

WHEN I CAME TO WASHINGTON, THE DISCUSSIONS WITH RESPECT TO ENERGY CONCERNED MEANS OF RESTRICTING PRODUCTION AND ALLOCATING IT AMONG VARIOUS ALLIES. TODAY THE PROBLEM IS TO FIND ENERGY SOURCES AROUND THE WORLD THAT CAN MEET WORLD NEEDS.

SO WE IN THIS COUNTRY ARE GOING THROUGH A REVOLUTION OF SORT AND THE WHOLE WORLD IS UNDERGOING A REVOLUTION IN ITS PATTERNS. AND
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THE BASIC PROBLEM WE FACE IS WHETHER WE WILL CHOOSE THE ROAD OF NATIONALISM OR THE ROAD OF COOPERATION, WHETHER WE WILL APPROACH IT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF EACH PARTY TRYING TO GET THE MAXIMUM BENEFIT FOR ITSELF OR WHETHER WE CAN TAKE A COMMON VIEW BASED ON OUR COMMON NEEDS. AND THIS IS WHY OUR RELATIONS IN THIS HEMISPHERE ARE SO CRUCIAL FOR ALL OF US IN THIS ROOM AND FOR ALL THE REST OF THE WORLD AS WELL. WE IN THIS ROOM, WITH ALL THE UPS AND DOWNS IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS, SHARE A COMMON HISTORY AND SIMILAR VALUES AND MANY SIMILAR EXPERIENCES. THE VALUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY IS NOWHERE BETTER UNDERSTOOD THAN IN THE COUNTRIES OF OUR FRIENDS TO THE SOUTH OF US.

SO IF THE TECHNICALLY ADVANCED NATIONS CAN EVER COOPERATE WITH THE DEVELOPING NATIONS, IF PEOPLE WITH SIMILAR ASPIRATIONS CAN EVER ACHIEVE COMMON GOALS, THEN IT MUST START HERE IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

WE IN THE UNITED STATES WILL APPROACH THIS DIALOGUE WITH AN OPEN MIND. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY INSTITUTION OR ANY TREATY ARRANGEMENT IS BEYOND EXAMINATION.. WE WANT TO SEE WHETHER FREE PEOPLES EMPHASIZING AND RESPECTING THEIR DIVERSITY BUT UNITED BY SIMILAR ASPIRATIONS AND VALUES CAN ACHIEVE GREAT GOALS ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY.

SO WE ARE STARTING AN URGENT EXAMINATION OF OUR WESTERN HEMISPHERE POLICY WITHIN OUR GOVERNMENT. BUT SUCH A POLICY MAKES NO SENSE IF IT IS A UNITED STATES PRESCRIPTION HANDED OVER TO LATIN AMERICANS FOR YOUR ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION. IT SHOULDN'T BE A POLICY DESIGNED IN WASHINGTON FOR LATIN AMERICA. IT SHOULD BE A POLICY DESIGNED BY ALL OF LATIN AMERICA FOR THE AMERICAS.

AND SO AS WE EXAMINE OUR OWN POLICY, WE MUST ALSO ASK FOR YOUR HELP. WE KNOW THAT THERE ISN'T ONE LATIN AMERICA BUT MANY DIFFERENT COUNTRIES. WE KNOW ALSO THAT THERE ARE CERTAIN SUB-REGIONAL GROUPINGS. BUT IT ISN'T FOR US TO SAY WITH WHOM TO CONDUCT THE DIALOGUE. THAT HAS TO COME FROM OUR GUESTS HERE IN THIS ROOM.

AND SO AS WE FORM OUR POLICY, I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOUR SUGGESTIONS, WHATEVER FORM YOU THINK APPROPRIATE, AS GROUPS OR SUB-GROUPS OR INDIVIDUAL NATIONS.

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AND WHEN OUR FINAL POLICY EMERGES, WE WILL ALL HAVE A SENSE THAT WE ALL HAD A SHARE IN ITS MAKING AND WE WILL ALL HAVE A STAKE IN MAINTAINING IT.

SO, PRESIDENT BENITES AND EXCELLENCIES, I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A TOAST TO WHAT CAN BE AN ADVENTURE OF FREE PEOPLES WORKING TOGETHER TO ESTABLISH A NEW RELATIONSHIP THAT CAN BE AN EXAMPLE TO MANY OTHER NATIONS. I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A TOAST TO WESTERN HEMISPHERE RELATIONSHIPS, TO OUR DISTINGUISHED GUEST OF HONOR, PRESIDENT BENITES.

UNQUOTE

2. RESPONSE BY PRESIDENT OF GA BENITES OF ECUADOR WARMLY WELCOMED SECRETARY'S INVITATION TO A DIALOGUE. HE CONTRASTED "CULTURE OF MONOLOGUE" WHICH LEADS TO DICTATORSHIP AND IMPOSITION, TO WHICH LATIN AMERICA REACTED VIOLENTLY, AND " CULTURE OF DIALOGUE" WHICH LEADS TO "FRUITFUL INTERACTION OF THOUGHT". REACTION OF

LATIN AMERICA, HE SAID, HAS ALWAYS BEEN POSITIVE TO KIND OF INVITATION EXTENDED BY SECRETARY AND HE SAW IN IT A SIGNIFICANT TURNING POINT.DIALOGUE, WHICH WILL BRING ABOUT BETTER UNDERSTANDING AMONG PEOPLES OF HEMISPHERE, IS WELCOME AND SECRETARY'S STATEMENT REPRESENTS "A TRANSCENDENTAL AMOUNT FOR INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS".

3. FOREIGN MINISTER VAZQUEZ OF COLOMBIA, WHO SPOKE ON BEHALF OF OTHER FONMINS PRESENT (ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, CHILE, COSTA RICA, HAITI, MEXICO, NICARAGUA, PANAMA AND VENEZUELA) APPLAUDED SECRETARY'S INVITATION, SAYING IT WAS A "TRANSCENDENTAL AND HISTORICAL POINT OF DEPARTURE" LEADING TO A NEW CHAPTER IN HEMISPHERIC RELATIONS". SYAING HE HOPES THAT THERE WOULD SOON BE A MEETING OF ALL FOREIGN MINISTERS OF HEMISPHERE TO DISCUSS AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND DIFFERENCES AND THE FUTURE OF THE HEMISPHERE, HE STATED HE IS CONFIDENT LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WILL RESPOND TO THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSALS WITH NEW IDEAS FOR DISCUSSIONS LEADING TO WORKING OUT A NEW POLICY FOR THE HEMISPHERE.

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4. MEMBERS OF UN PRESS CORP ALSO ATTENDED LUNCHEON AND ARE EXPECTED TO FILE STORIES SUMMARIZING REMARKS MADE AT LUNCHEON. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE199702
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: POL:ELITTLE USUN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731066/abqceiyn.tel
Line Count: 194
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05-Nov-2001 by chappeld>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2002 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S REMARKS AT LATIN AMERICAN LUNCHEON IN NEW YORK
TAGS: PFOR, SGEN, XM, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
USCINCSO FOR POLAD INFO USUN N Y
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005